

IN THE CLAIMS

Please revise Claims 1-21 and add new Claims 22-44, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A combination comprising a therapeutically-effective amount of ~~an epoxy steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone, a therapeutically-effective amount of a loop diuretic, and a therapeutically-effective amount of an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor, wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of alacepril, benazepril, captopril, cilazapril, delapril, enalapril, enalaprilat, fosinopril, fosinoprilat, imidapril, lisinopril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril, saralasin acetate, temocapril, trandolapril, ceranapril, moexipril, quinaprilat, spirapril, ~~Bioproject BP1.137, Chiesi CHF 1514, Fisons FPL 66564, idrapril, Marion Merrell Dow MDL 100240, and Servier S 5590.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said ~~epoxy steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone is present in an amount which is therapeutically effective to antagonize aldosterone but which amount is not sufficient for said ~~aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone to induce a substantially adverse side effect.

3. (Cancelled) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of alacepril, benazepril, captopril, cilazapril, delapril, enalapril, enalaprilat, fosinopril, fosinoprilat, imidapril, lisinopril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril, saralasin acetate, temocapril, trandolapril, ceranapril, moexipril, quinaprilat, and spirapril.

4. (Cancelled) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said aldosterone receptor antagonist is an epoxy-steroidal-type compound characterized in having a 9 α -,11 α -substituted epoxy moiety.

5. (Cancelled) The combination of Claim 4 wherein said epoxy-steroidal-type compound is eplerenone.

6. (Currently Amended) The combination of Claim 1 further characterized by said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor and said ~~aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone being present in said combination in a weight ratio range from about 0.5-to-one to about twenty-to-one of said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor to said ~~aldosterone receptor-antagonist~~ eplerenone.

7. (Original) The combination of Claim 6 wherein said weight ratio range is from about one-to-one to about fifteen-to-one.

8. (Original) The combination of Claim 7 wherein said weight ratio range is from about one-to-one to about five-to-one.

9. (Currently Amended) A combination therapy for treating cardiovascular disorders in a subject afflicted with or susceptible to multiple cardiovascular disorders, wherein said combination therapy comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically-effective amount of ~~a two-component combination consisting essentially of an epoxy steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist, as a first component~~ eplerenone, a loop diuretic, and an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor ~~as a second component~~, wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of alacepril, benazepril, captopril, cilazapril, delapril, enalapril, enalaprilat, fosinopril, fosinoprilat, imidapril, lisinopril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril, saralasin acetate, temocapril, trandolapril, ceranapril, moexipril, quinaprilat, spirapril, ~~Bioproject~~

~~BP1.137, Chiesi CHF 1514, Fisons FPL 66564, idrapril, Marion Merrell Dow MDL 100240, and perindoprilat., and Servier S 5590.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said ~~epoxy-steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone is present in an amount therapeutically effective to antagonize aldosterone but insufficient to induce an adverse side effect.

11. (Cancelled) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of alacepril, benazepril, captopril, cilazapril, delapril, enalapril, enalaprilat, fosinopril, fosinoprilat, imidapril, lisinopril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril, saralasin acetate, temocapril, trandolapril, ceranapril, moexipril, quinaprilat, and spirapril.

12. (Currently Amended) The combination therapy of Claim 9 further characterized by administering said eplerenone, said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor, and said ~~epoxy-steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ loop diuretic in a sequential manner.

13. (Currently Amended) The combination therapy of Claim 9 further characterized by administering said eplerenone, said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor, and said ~~epoxy-steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ loop diuretic in a substantially simultaneous manner.

14. (Cancelled) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said epoxy-steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist is a compound characterized in having a 9 α -11 α -substituted epoxy moiety.

15. (Cancelled) The combination therapy of Claim 14 wherein said epoxy-steroidal compound is eplerenone.

16. (Currently Amended) The combination therapy of Claim 9 further characterized by said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor and said ~~epoxy steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone being used in said co-therapy in a weight ratio range from about 0.5-to-one to about twenty-to-one of said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor to said ~~aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ eplerenone.

17. (Original) The combination therapy of Claim 16 wherein said weight ratio range is from about one-to-one to about fifteen-to-one.

18. (Original) The combination therapy of Claim 17 wherein said weight ratio range is from about one-to-one to about five-to-one.

19. (Cancelled) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is captopril, in a dose range from about 40 mg to about 80 mg per dose, or is enalapril in a dose range from about 5 mg to about 25 mg per dose.

20. (Cancelled) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril, in a dose range from about 2 mg to about 20 mg per dose, or is lisinopril in a dose range from about 5 mg to about 25 mg per dose.

21. (Currently Amended) The combination therapy as in Claim 9 wherein said ~~epoxy steroidal aldosterone receptor antagonist~~ is eplerenone is administered in a dose range from about 25 mg to about 100 mg per dose.

22. (New) The combination as in Claim 1 wherein said eplerenone is administered in a dose range from about 25 mg to about 100 mg per dose.

23. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said loop diuretic is furosemide.

24. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is benazepril.

25. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is captopril.

26. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is enalapril.

27. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is fosinopril.

28. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is lisinopril.

29. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is perindopril.

30. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is quinapril.

31. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.

32. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor istrandolapril.

33. (New) The combination of Claim 1 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is moexipril.

34. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said loop diuretic is furosemide.

35. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is benazepril.

36. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is captopril.

37. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is enalapril.

38. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is fosinopril.

39. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is lisinopril.

40. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is perindopril.

41. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is quinapril.

42. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is ramipril.

43. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is trandolapril.

44. (New) The combination therapy of Claim 9 wherein said angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is moexipril.

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